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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 13, and 14 as follows (a complete listing of all the claims appears below):

Claim 1 (currently amended): A communication apparatus that performs data communication via a communication network, said apparatus comprising:

a packet transmitter for transmitting adapted to transmit image data in packets and for selectively transmitting sound data in packets, and to transmit sound data in packets, wherein the sound data is divided into packets of invariable packet size and the image data is divided into packets of variable packet size based on the size of each sound data packet;

a detector for detecting adapted to detect an amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets; and

a controller for controlling adapted to increase the variable packet size of the packets of image data to be transmitted and to decrease an amount of sound data to be transmitted by said packet transmitter, according to a detection result of said detector decrease in the amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets, as detected by said detector.

Claim 2 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein said controller changes the packet size of the image data gradationally according to the amount of the sound data to be transmitted in packets.

Claim 3 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 1, wherein said controller changes the packet size of the image data according to whether  
the amount of the sound data to be transmitted in packets is zero or non-zero.

Claim 4 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 1, further comprising an image input unit for inputting the image data by photographing an  
image.

Claim 5 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 4, wherein said image input unit includes one of a motion-picture camera and a  
still-picture camera.

Claim 6 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 1, further comprising a sound input unit for inputting the sound data.

Claim 7 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 6, wherein said sound input unit includes a microphone.

Claim 8 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to  
Claim 1, further comprising a compression unit for compressing at least one of the image data  
and the sound data.

Claim 9 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to

Claim 1, further comprising:

a receiver for receiving image data and sound data transferred in packets; and

a player unit for playing the image data and the sound data received by said receiver.

Claim 10 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to

Claim 9, wherein said player unit includes an expansion unit for expanding the received image data and the received sound data.

Claim 11 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to

Claim 9, wherein said player unit includes a display for visibly displaying an image corresponding to the received image data.

Claim 12 (previously amended): A communication apparatus according to

Claim 9, wherein said player unit includes a speaker for outputting sound corresponding to the received sound data.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A communication method of a communication apparatus that performs performing data communication via a communication network, said method comprising:

a packet transmission step of transmitting image data in packets and of selectively transmitting sound data in packets, wherein the sound data is divided into packets of invariable packet size and the image data is divided into packets of variable packet size based on the size of each sound data packet;

a detection step of detecting an amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets; and

a control step of controlling increasing the variable packet size of the packets of image data to be transmitted and decreasing an amount of sound data to be transmitted in said packet transmission step, according to a detection result of said detection step decrease in the amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets, as detected in said detection step.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A computer-readable recording medium storing a program for a communication method of a communication apparatus that performs performing data communication via a communication network, the program comprising:

program code for a packet transmission step of transmitting image data in packets and of selectively transmitting sound data in packets, wherein the sound data is divided into packets of invariable packet size and the image data is divided into packets of variable packet size based on the size of each sound data packet;

program code for a detection step of detecting an amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets; and

program code for a control step of controlling increasing the variable packet

size of the packets of image data to be transmitted and decreasing an amount of sound data to be transmitted in the packet transmission step, according to a detection result of the detection step decrease in the amount of sound data to be transmitted in packets, as detected in the detection step.

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